### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Reese, Latasha

From:

City Web

Sent:

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 10:47 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item Mansionization

## Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item Mansionization

Name: James A

Address: Pasadena, CA 91107

#### **Comments:**

Do NOT support Zoning Code Amendment: Update to Single-Family Residential Standards (Mansionization)! Such amendment will disrupt the economic well-being of Pasadena, causing the City to lack behind other surrounding city! What's wrong with the existing ordinance? City should spend more efforts in curbing designs that are out of fit relative to the neighborhood, in lieu of cracking down on housing size. We need more living spaces!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

We strongly oppose the zoning code amendment to Single-Family Standards. In particular, we strongly oppose the proposed restriction to limit "new houses to less than 35 percent above the median floor area of houses within 500 feet". In short, the proposed limit is a "one-size-fits-all" approach that fails to account for the unique circumstances of many neighborhoods within Pasadena and will unfairly impose extreme and unreasonable burdens on many homeowners (in particular those that owns a large lot of land). We will outline my reasoning below:

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Furthermore, this "one size fit all" approach fails to account for the unique circumstances of many different neighborhoods within Pasadena. For example, not only does the new requirement fail to take into account land size, but it also fails to provide sufficient weight to homes located within larger size lots in the same 500 feet radius. By definition, within the same 500 feet radius, more homes located in smaller lots will be included in the calculation than homes in larger lots. This is against the underlying objective of preserving the neighborhood.

The proposed discretionary review process is not an adequate solution, since it would impose an additional and unnecessary burden on homeowners seeking to exercise their existing rights under the current zoning code. Effectively making renovation and new build prohibitively expensive and time-consuming.

In an era of affordable housing crises, the proposed regulation would further limit housing affordability, by discouraging and in some cases, prohibiting current homeowners from being able to expand their current homes to accommodate multiple generations.

We hereby urge the City of Pasadena to remove/prevent such unfair and unreasonable regulation from damaging the currently functioning building code.

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#### Petition against the new zoning amendments October 2020

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| Name         | Address                                       | Date    | Signature |
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#### Petition against the new zoning amendments October 2020

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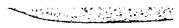
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We strongly oppose the zoning code amendment to Single-Family Standards. In particular, we strongly oppose the proposed restriction to limit "new houses to less than 35 percent above the median floor area of houses within 500 feet". In short, the proposed limit is a "one-size-fits-all" approach that fails to account for the unique circumstances of many neighborhoods within Pasadena and will unfairly impose extreme and unreasonable burdens on many homeowners (in particular those that owns a large lot of land). We will outline my reasoning below:

The new proposed requirement fails to account for the land size of the property in question. As a result, a house that sits on a 15,000 square lot will be limited to the same buildable area as a house that sits on a 5,000 square lot. It will disproportionately and unfairly punish owners with larger than average land size within their neighborhood. In the two examples provided by the city Staff, in example 1, the regulation would impose a 1,650 s/f (on a 10,327 s/f lot) while in example 2, a maximum house sizes of 1,832 s/f would be imposed (on an 8,735 s/f lot). Although the lot in example 1 is 20% larger than example 2, the maximum house sizes would be 11% smaller.

Furthermore, this "one size fit all" approach fails to account for the unique circumstances of many different neighborhoods within Pasadena. For example, not only does the new requirement fail to take into account land size, but it also fails to provide sufficient weight to homes located within larger size lots in the same 500 feet radius. By definition, within the same 500 feet radius, more homes located in smaller lots will be included in the calculation than homes in larger lots. This is against the underlying objective of preserving the neighborhood.

The proposed discretionary review process is not an adequate solution, since it would impose an additional and unnecessary burden on homeowners seeking to exercise their existing rights under the current zoning code. Effectively making renovation and new build prohibitively expensive and time-consuming.

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